THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 18TH JUNE.

A NATIVE policeman in the Reserve Lines at Hooghly deliberately shot one of his comrades on Friday for overpowering him, it is said, in a wrestling match. Jealousy appears, however, to have been the cause of the deed. The wounded man was carried to the police hospital, where he died some hours later. The murderer was taken to the jail under a strong escort. He has been placed before the Magistrate on a charge of willful murder.

INDIGO in Bengal and Behar has suffered a good deal from the late hot and dry weather. Fair showers have fallen in Krishnaghur, Murshedabad, Rajshahye, and a few other districts, but more rain is still wanted even there, and in those districts where no rain has fallen the spring sowings have been seriously affected. Manufacture has consequently been delayed, and though it has been begun in a few factories with chur lands, it will not be general for nearly another fortnight. In Behar several factories have started manufacture, and so far produce is reported to have been satisfactory. But in Southern Tirhut and in most parts of Chupra the plant is said to be suffering to some extent from burn and want of rain. In these districts Mahai will be late, and will not probably begin before the first week in July. More rain is also wanted in the North-West Provinces, but the crop is holding out well.

THE great depression in the Russian wheat market has, says the British Consul at Taganrog, caused many agriculturists in South Russia to direct their thoughts to the possibility of turning the soil to other uses than the growth of wheat, and among other things to a consideration of the question whether tea could be grown there. The soil is believed to be suitable for tea cultivation in most parts of the extensive region known as South Russia, while the consumption of tea in Russia, as Sir Mackenzie Wallace tells us, is enormous. As, however, practically the whole of this demand is supplied from China, the Indian industry would only be indirectly affected if ever the idea is carried out.

A PRIVATE of the 2nd Prince of Wales's Grenadiers, Bombay Infantry, shot a Havildar in charge of the regimental quarter-guard on Sunday night. The man was a sentry over the treasury chest at the time which was the reason of his having a cartridge in his possession. He got away after firing the fatal shot, and was at large with his rifle and nineteen rounds of ball ammunition. Parties were however sent out in all directions in search of the murderer, and captured him after a deal of trouble.

THE following official note has been issued :—The Government of India has telegraphed descriptions of the murderers of Mr. Dalgleish to Pekin, Teheran and Russia, and has also written to Yarkand and Kashgar on the subject. Rewards of Rs. 5,000 for the capture of Dad Mahomed, and Rs. 3,000 for his principal accomplice, the Panjabi, Fakir Buksh, have been offered. It is said that a clue has been found to the where-abouts of Dad Mahomed, and that there is a reasonable prospect of his being captured. If he is secured in Yarkhand territory the Chinese, it is hoped, will give him up.

THE first instalment of the boring machinery for the Madras Diamond Fields has arrived.

THE popularity of Indian cigars in England is steadily growing; and, judging from the subjoined extract regarding the tobacco export trade of Cuba, the carelessness of tobacco growers in other countries affords a chance to native producers to push the trade with as much success as the Indian tea planters have done with theirs. "There is as much tobacco grown and as good markets for it as ever," writes Consul General Crowe, "but the growers and manufacturers, in their race after quick returns, force and spoil the plant in the ground and the curing house, and ship goods that not only no longer command the market, but are undersold by foreign and inferior but probably more carefully-prepared kinds. The great demand, too, for light colours causes injury to the plant, which, unless artificial bleaching is had recourse to, must be gathered before maturity with loss of quality and aroma. There is still a large amount of exquisite, carefully handled tobacco exported, but the price of these has become so high that it is above the reach of the middle class consumer. Climate, soil, and acreage are all in favour of a superior and large production that could keep the field against all comers; but the elements to make this a reality—namely, capital, labour, and frugal and unfettered administration—are wanting."

TUESDAY, 19TH JUNE.

A CORRESPONDENT with the Sikkim Expedition, telegraphing from Gnatong on June 14 to an up-country paper, states :—"Reports from Chumbi say that the Thibetans are much disheartened by their losses and privations, much of their grain having been spoilt, and four hundred out of one thousand yaks having died from eating poisonous grass. The enemies consider they must wait for the Lama army from Lhassa before they can again attack us here. No retrogade movement has, however, taken place yet, some four thousand five hundred men being still in the neighbourhood of the frontier. Reports say that these may again attack before the Chinese troops now on the march can arrive at Lhassa. The letter sent in by the Political Officer about a week ago by two prisoners was at first refused by the Thibetan Commanders, but a Thibetan translation of it was ultimately sent over to Lhassa. It is believed that the enemies had good information of the presence here on the 22nd May of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal."

HERE are some more disclosures regarding the coolie question taken from the columns of an Anglo-Indian contemporary. At the Sealdah Joint-Magistrate's Court, on Saturday, three natives were charged under the provisions of section 234 of the Criminal Procedure Code, with having, on the 14th instant, wrongfully restrained a native man and a woman by endeavouring to place them in a third-class carriage, for the purpose of enlisting them as coolies. Both the complainants left Midnapore for Calcutta on Wednesday last. They got on board a steamer at Uluberia on Thursday, and met the three defendants on board. They travelled together in the steamer and arrived at the Armenian Ghaut on the afternoon of the 14th instant. The defendants then asked the complainants where they were going. On their replying that they were going to Mohun Baboo's Bagan, the defendants got a gharry, and induced them to go in it with them, telling them that they would drop them at their destination. After the complainants had got into the carriage, the doors were closed, and the complainants were not allowed to open them, though several attempts were made on the way from Armenian Ghaut to Moula Ali-ka Durga. At the latter place, the woman complainant jumped out, her suspicions having been aroused by the conduct of the defendants. One of the defendants also got out, and another defendant attempted to catch her too, and replace her in the gharry. She refused to re-enter the conveyance, and a crowd having gathered, a police jemadar came up and arrested the three defendants. He ascertained that the defendants were coolie recruiters, and intended to take the complainants to the coolie depot of Mr. Andrews, at Entally, evidently with the object of getting them entered as coolies against their will. These proceedings on the part of the defendants, the Magistrate remarked, were highly reprehensible, and they deserved to be severely dealt with. They were sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment each.

THE National Association for Supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India, has secured the assistance of the Government of India in two most important matters. First, the Surgeon-General will advise the Association as to the selection of its employes. Second, the work done for the Association in dispensaries, hospitals, and medical-schools will be inspected and reported on for the information of the Managing Committee of the Association by the supervising medical authorities in India. A form of agreement has been adopted, which will now be used in engaging lady doctors in England.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH JUNE.

THE *Pioneer* says :—"It is understood that Colonel C. H. T. Marshall, Private Secretary to His Highness the Nizam, has applied for two months' leave from August next. The Government of India will make no objection to Colonel Marshall obtaining any leave to which, according to their rules, he is entitled, but it is for the Nizam to grant the leave. It may be concluded that Colonel Marshall will take the opportunity of retiring from a position which he may no longer find it desirable to occupy."

A CORRESPONDENT, who wishes to raise the tone of the army, proposes that soldiers, who are obliged to go into hospital suffering from contagious diseases, and who thus render themselves unfit for duty, should be punished in the same way as men who render themselves unfit for duty by excessive drinking, by being made to forfeit pay, and on repetition of the offence, lose good conduct stripes, &c.

THE salary of the Chief Commissioner of Burmah is to be raised to that of a Member of the Viceregal Council, namely, Rs. 6,400 a month. The proposal that the province should be made into a Lieutenant-Governorship has for the present been abandoned.

PROFESSOR FLINT, of the Edinburgh University, has taken up the Rev. Mr. Hastie's case again *de novo*, with the prospect of bringing the whole matter once more before the Court of Sessions. Irrepressible!

BABU Ram Chunder Palit intends bringing out in two volumes the Speeches and Minutes of the late Hon'ble Kristo Das Paul, together with selections from his writings and private correspondence. These two volumes will be published in England, and we are told that a well-known member of Parliament will write an introduction to the book.

THE *Liberal* says that Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress has been pleased to make telegraphic enquiries about the Maharani of Cuch Behar and the infant Prince, recently born.

IN the House of Lords on the 18th instant the Marquis of Salisbury introduced a bill for facilitating the entry of life Peers into the House. The bill provides the maximum number of five life peerages yearly, the total number never to exceed fifty. The clauses in it also enable to suspend from the House any Peers whose conduct has brought scandal and disgrace upon themselves.

NEWS has been received that Colonel L. R. Battye, of the 5th Goorkhas, Captain H. B. Urmston, of the 6th Panjab Infantry, one Havildar, and five Goorkha Sepoys have been killed at Charkalan, on the Agror border, by a body of Akozais, a Black Mountain tribe. Colonel Battye and his party were beyond the British border, and had apparently entered Akozai country on a reconnoitring expedition. The Akozais first fired on them, and they returned the fire. The bodies of Major Battye and Captain Urmston were brought in, but the six Gurkhas who were killed were left on the field. An expedition will be sent in autumn to punish the offending tribes. Troops have already been told off, and preparations are being made.

A PROPOSAL has been made to send an address of condolence from the city of Madras to the Queen on account of her Imperial Son-in-law's death. The other Presidencies should do the same thing.

THE East India Railway headed last year the list of Indian Railways in its percentage of net earnings on capital expenditure. These came to 8¾ per cent. This railway has kept steadily at over 8 per cent; its largest returns were in 1883, when they amounted to 8·99 per cent. The next on the list is the Great Indian Peninsular Railway with a percentage of 8·06. This also is a line with high returns, its earnings having varied for some years from 6 to 8 per cent. The Bombay-Baroda and Central India Railway brought in a revenue of 7·80 per cent. on capital, this amount being less than it has earned for the past five years. The yield of the Rajputana-Malwa came to 6·36 per cent., of the Eastern Bengal

to 5·36 per cent., of the North-Western to 1·79. The Burma line earned 5·55, but this, a contemporary rightly thinks, is probably to a great extent illusory, being due largely to military transport.

THURSDAY, 21ST JUNE.

THE experiments which were made last cold weather at the petroleum wells of Khatun near Sibi proved that each well is capable of delivering from 400 to 600 barrels of oil in 24 hours. As it has been estimated that the Sind-Peshin Railway would consume not more than 50,000 barrels in the year, it will be seen that any of the wells is more than sufficient for the requirements of that line. The chief obstacle to the further development of the Khatun wells is the difficulty of transporting the oil to the railway. Khatun is 40 miles to the east of Sibi, and to convey the oil to the latter station it was proposed to lay down a pipe. There was no obstacle to this proposal in the elevation of the country, Khatun being some 1,500 feet above the level of Sibi, but doubts arose as to whether the oil might not be too viscid to flow through a pipe. Experiments have been instituted to determine this point, and there is every reason to believe that if they succeed, the Khatun oil will be in demand for many useful purposes in Sind and Beluchistan.

WE are glad to learn that Surgeon Major R. C. Chandra, Professor of Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine, Medical College, Calcutta, has been appointed to act as Principal of that College during the absence on leave of Dr. Coates. Dr. Chandra is the first native physician who has got the post and his abilities are well-known.

ON the 13th instant a shocking murder was committed in the village of Shampoor by a barber named Nobin. The accused, it appears, discovered the existence of an undue familiarity between his wife and a neighbour named Gour Dass Boyragee. At noon that day he called at the house of the latter, and on finding him fast asleep on his bed, struck him several blows on the neck with a *dao*, killing him on the spot. The murder remained undiscovered till the following day, when suspicion at once fell on the accused, as he had been seen on the public road the previous day with the *dao* in his hand. On being arrested he confessed his guilt.

IT appears that the consumption of horseflesh in the French capital, in a more or less concealed form, has increased to an extraordinary extent. At present there are no fewer than 150 regularly established horse-butchers in Paris, independent of hawkers and other salesmen to be found in the small markets. In 1886 the number of animals killed for sale was only 862, whereas during the past year it rose to as many as 15,000, giving a total of eight million pounds of horseflesh for public consumption. The two principal slaughter-houses are at Villejuif and Panton. Of course, these horse-butchers are only to be met with in the poor quarters, and even there they are so disguised that the uninitiated would take them to be *bona fide* caterers of beef and mutton. Few people buy or eat horseflesh knowingly. The trade is carried on in a semi-clandestine manner. The shops are nearly always empty of customers, but the meat finds its way in the night to the cheap restaurants, where it is turned into sausages.

The Bill for the immediate and unconditional abolition of slavery in Brazil, recently voted by the Chamber of Deputies, has now been passed by the Senate.

THE Rana of Porebunder, who has been deprived by the Bombay Government of ruling powers in his petty State because of gross mismanagement, is reported to be about to proceed to England, with a view to prevail upon the Home Government to interfere on his behalf.

THE opening of the first railway in Persia took place on the 20th instant. The line, which has been completed, extends from Teheran to Shah Abdul, fifteen kilometres.

THE little storm which blew in the city on Monday evening last seems to have assumed the dimensions of a gale in the suburbs. The ravages done at Panihatti and Augurparra are reported to have been very great. On the Barrackpore Trunk-road trees were up-rooted "by hundreds," and a correspondent says that "a female was blown away" from Raja Ram Chandra's Bathing-ghat, and remained unconscious for hours. Several cargo boats were lost on the river, while the roof of a *pansey* or green-boat which was blown away from Kotrung, was found in the garden of the Bose brothers at Panihati.

ON the night of the 17th instant, 15 passengers, Punjabees, were taken out at the Burdwan railway station from No. 7 up-train, which leaves Howrah at 5·30 P. M., apparently in an unconscious state, supposed both to have been under the influence of liquor and affected by the intense heat of the weather, but on a further investigation were suspected to have been drugged. The men were labourers, proceeding to their country, having returned from Burma, where they were employed in the plate-laying operations in the Tounghoo and Mandalay extension of the Burmah State Railway, each having certificates to that effect. The aggregate collection of their earnings in Burmah amounted to a sum of Rs. 1,500 amongst them, of which the loss of Rs. 500 could not be traced. The men were removed to the Burdwan hospital by the Railway authorities in a precarious state, and two have died since. It has transpired that one of the number jumped out of the train in motion. On him suspicion of foul play rests, and from the dying deposition of the two men who have succumbed, as well as of those who have survived, it would appear that this man while travelling together with his brother Punjabees produced a bottle of gin, of which all the men had been drinking; a second bottle made its appearance, as well as some *cheenee* (sugar) which he induced them to eat of, saying it would deaden the bad taste of the liquor. The *cheenee* contained the poison, and when the men became insensible he robbed them of about Rs. 500. Having secured his prize, he jumped out of the train between Mymari and Saktigurh, where he was apprehended by the district police and brought up to Burdwan for trial. The man sustained no severe injuries with the exception of a good shaking.

FRIDAY, 22ND JUNE.

THE Queen-Empress has been pleased, on the recommendations of the Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief, to gazette Nawab Afsur Jung, A. D. C. to His Highness the Nizam and Commanding the Golconda Brigade, as an Honorary Major in Her Majesty's Army.

FROM Colonel Conway Gordon's Railway administration report, we gather that the total extent of railways open for traffic in India on the 31st March, 1888, was 14,383 miles, of which 4,565 miles were in the hands of Guaranteed, Assisted, and other Companies, 8994 miles were State lines, either Imperial or Provincial, worked by State Agency or leased to Companies, and 824 miles belonged to native States. On the same date the extent of railway mileage sanctioned for construction was 2,487 miles, of which 181 miles were in the hands of Guaranteed, Assisted, and other Companies; 1,857 miles were under construction by the State, and 448 miles by native States.

MADRAS telegrams state that three weeks ago Sir Madhava Row telegraphed to Lord Connemara that crime attended with violence was very rife there. The public, he added, were much alarmed, and special measures were necessary. The telegram was referred to Colonel Weldon, the Commissioner of Police, who attributes the alarm to the visit of a gang of professional thieves from Nellore or the Ceded Districts. He has put the whole police force, including the reserve, at work at night, and no policeman has had a night in bed for three weeks. They are now thoroughly exhausted. The cases that have come to light are few, only four being attended with violence. All occurred in lonely places. The outbreak of crime, Colonel Weldon says, is exceptional, but it may be repeated. The scare still prevails, the wildest rumours being circulated.

A VERY curious statement reaches the *Indian Daily News* from Cashmere, about the Lamas of Thibet, which one would like to have confirmed or refuted. According to this statement, "the rites which the Lamas still observe on religious festivals are in every way like those of the aborigines of Polynesia, and give a decided proof of cannibalism to the civilised world. On occasion of festivals the bones of defunct Lamas are brought from all quarters, and afterwards boiled in a large caldron, and on these occasions several aged Lamas always sacrifice themselves by jumping into the caldron, and thus eventually convert themselves into soup which is called by the Thibetans *Sholunarshani*. When the festival is over, this soup is distributed amongst the attendant Lamas, and they find it into copper vessels in the shape of beads, called by them *lonkha*, covered with red cloth or silk, and are carried about the person. When all these Lamas disperse and return to their homes, they again distribute this soup to the other Lamas, who receive it in smaller beads like thimbles. These are always worn slung at the waist from the girdle, and when any Lama eats, he first dips a thin twig into the bead and passes it across his tongue."

THE Gaekwar of Baroda leaves Bombay in the steamer *Clyde* on the 26th June *en route* to Switzerland. His Highness's health is said to have been impaired by close attention to State business, and he suffers especially from sleeplessness. During his late visit to Europe, he benefitted most by his stay in Switzerland, and his medical advisers are of opinion that a few months' further sojourn there will probably serve to restore his health completely. His present intention is to return to Baroda before the end of the year.

SATURDAY, 23RD JUNE.

ACCORDING to a German paper, a merchant lately advertised for a wife in Berlin, and recieved no fewer than 277 answers. Of these, eighty seven were widows, varying in age from twenty-five to fifty two; forty-two of them had no children, and twenty-one possessed fortunes entirely under their own control of from 3000 to 20,000 marks. Four ladies who had been separated from their husbands also wrote to express a desire to try their luck at marriage for a second time—one of them for a third time. Of the remaining 186 girls, only two gave their age as over thirty; eighteen of them professed to be "just turned sixteen." Seventy-one photographs were enclosed, and thirty-one of them are said to represent remarkably pretty girls.

THE Government of India have decided to abolish, from 1st October next, the posts of Fund Examiners in Madras and Bombay, and to relegate the duties thereof to the respective Pay Examiners. In connection with the Military service, there is at present one general Fund in the Presidency, to which admissions are made, and that is the Indian Service Family Pension Fund. To this Fund Military Officers of the Staff Corps, Chaplains and Officers of the Indian Medical Service are admitted. Some years back there were two distinct Funds, the Medical and the Military Fund, but these have recently been merged into the Indian Service Fund. The Examiner of Medical Accounts is also the Fund Examiner, for which he gets an allowance, and, as it has been suggested by the Finance Committee to abolish the appointment of Medical Examiner, it has been decided not to retain him as the Fund Examiner, but to transfer his duties to the Pay Examiner.

THE *Electrical World* says:—"The improvements in the phonograph have now been carried to such a degree of perfection that the instrument is practicaly ready for general introduction. Undoubtedly, means will be hit upon from time to time to enhance the value and efficiency of the phonograph, but it stands to-day, in our opinion, far more practical and complete than was the type writer when first brought out and placed on the market. Aside from the practical use, is the wonder—for wonder it is—that not only can the human voice be registered, but it can be duplicated in countless electrotypes. We may be wrong, but not greatly, in believing that this century will be memorable above others, because it is that which first preserved articulate speech for after-time. All poetry of every age, is full of the yearning, one of the deepest in human nature, for the voice whose gentle greeting could be heard no more; and yet this tender sentiment will be gratified, and each elusive tone and accent now has conferred on it a perpetuity that is not an attribute of the graven stone or brass."

EVERYBODY has heard of the Man in the Moon, but M. Pase, the Paris astronomer, has just read an interesting communication at the Academy of Science, which gives some curious information concerning the "Men in Mars." The author of the communication is M. Perrotin, of the Nice Observatory. This gentleman brought a powerful glass to bear on the planet, and from what he saw it appears that Mars is not only inhabited by men, but by most skillful and energetic canal-cutters and engineers who put M. de Lesseps and his fellow-piercers of isthmuses "in back seats." Astronomers have already called the lines going from to sea on the surfarce of Mars "canals"; but M. Perrotin says that some of these waterways are like the Panama project, still unfinished. M. Berthelot, one of the Academicians, is a bit of a wag, and he asked M. de Lesseps, who was present at the meeting, if he had by chance a brother projector in Mars, whereat all the learned astronomers smiled solemnly.

THE total number of deaths in Calcutta registered during the week ending 16th June was 202 against 193 and 188 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 18. There were 11 deaths from cholera, against 25 and 37 in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 3. There were no deaths from the small-pox during the week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amount to 50 and 14 respectively, against 44 and 11 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 24·3 per mille per annum, against 19·2, the mean of the last five years.

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The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1888.

THE GERMAN SITUATION.

BEFORE removing the body of Emperor Frederick from the death chamber, a *post mortem* examination took place at the hands of the eminent surgeons who were in attendance on His Majesty during his illness. The autopsy resulted in disclosing the existence of cancer in the throat. The autopsy further disclosed that the larynx had been completely destroyed by cancer, leaving a cavity of the size of a man's clenched fist. This jars very painfully on Hindoo ears, for such vandalism on departed greatness, however much it might advance the Medical Science, is inconsistent with the Hindoo idea of proper respect to the dead. Whatever causes the demise may have been due to, such sacrilege was absolutely uncalled for and wholly unjustifiable, when His Imperial Majesty was past all human aid. The body lay in State in the castle on Saturday surrounded by the loveliest floral wreaths and other devices in violets, and was viewed by the multitudes of Potsdam and the neighbouring places The funeral took place on Monday. From an early hour the town was filled by a dense crowd and every point of vantage was besought in order to view the funeral procession which, in spite of its announced simplicity, attracted people from the capital and neighbouring country districts. The procession marched from the Palace to the Friedenskirche. After the hearse walked the Crown Prince William, the Prince of Wales and a few members of royalty. The road was lined by a double row of soldiers, and a large military escort accompanied the late Emperor's remains. The service in the church was choral, and on the conclusion of the ceremony volleys of salvoes were fired.

The two Houses of Parliament have unanimously voted addresses of condolence to her Majesty the Queen and the Empress Victoria. In India the following Gazette extraordinary was published on Sunday, and has been duly given effect to:—"Official intelligence having been received from her Majesty's Secretary of State for India that the funeral of his late Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany will take place on the the 18th instant, the Governor-General in Council directs that as a mark of respect to his Imperial Majesty's memory flags shall be hoisted half mast high from sunrise to sunset, and sixty minute guns be fired in all forts and stations throughout India on that day. The Governor-General in Council further directs that the officers of her Majesty's Civil, Military, and Marine Services do put themselves into mourning till the 7th July." Nearly all the vessels in harbour on the Hooghly had their flags lowered half-mast high. On Sunday both at the Calcutta Cathedral and St. John's Church Dead March in "saul" was played, the congregation standing up the while, as a mark of respect for the dead Emperor. In Poona and Simla balls, races, levees, theatricals and parades were put off on account of the mourning. Lord Reay and the chief Civil and Military officers of Bombay paid visits of condolence at the residence of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, on receipt of the news of the Emperor's death. Her Majesty the Queen has ordered a general mourning in England for a fortnight. The English Court has gone into mourning for six weeks. Prince Albert Victor of Wales accompanied the Prince and Princess of Wales to be present at the funeral at Potsdam.

The disturbance of European peace is being already foreboded. A general order from the Emperor William the Second to the Army and Navy, was issued on Saturday alluding in painful terms to the death of the Emperor Frederick, and affirming the deep reliance and attachment of his successor to both the services of the Fatherland. The majority of the French papers regarded the General Order as warlike. The English and Continental press, however, published leading articles on the subject dissenting from the warlike interpretation given to it by the French Press, and expressed their belief that the Emperor William's policy will remain pacific. The Emperor himself issued a second proclamation more conciliatory in its tone. In it his Majesty says that, like his dearly beloved father, whom he mourns, he vows to be just and clement. He will foster religion, guard the peace, and will promote the commonweal of his country. A hopeful feeling, therefore, prevails on the whole with regard to the political situation in Europe. The Continental bourses were buoyant on the 19th instant. The Czar strengthened this feeling by declining to sanction a proposal submitted by General Vannovski, the Minister for War, for doubling the reserve battalions of the army, declaring that the situation does not justify them in over-burdening the finances of the Empire. Count Kalnoky also has said that he is confident that the accession of the Emperor William would not affect the Austrian alliance with Germany. But a special London telegram, dated 19th June, states:—"At a last interview with Prince Bismarck, the Emperor placed the hands of the Empress in that of Bismarck silently commending reconciliation. The European Press recognise that the accession of Prince William brings a new factor into the European situation, and doubt whether France and Russia will be allowed to continue menacing peace with armaments while choosing their own time for fighting." Emperor William, however, replying to M. Carnot's condolences, assured the President of the Republic that he shares the wishes expressed by M. Carnot for upholding the good relations which exist between Germany and France. We have news on the other hand that the special correspondents of the Parisian newspapers, the *Galois* and *Matin*, have been expelled from Berlin by the German authorities for slandering high personages. We hope this has no political significance. Prince Bismarck, speaking in the Federal Council, has emphasized the pacific character of the situation, and he said Germany will continue to maintain her domestic and foreign policy under the reigning Emperor William. The German Reichstag has been summoned to meet to day and a positive declaration of policy may now be expected.

FATUOUS STATESMANSHIP.

IT is difficult to make out the object the Bengal Government has in view in issuing its last Notification about closed seasons for game. It would be absurd to suppose that it has been actuated by the Buddhist feeling of universal mercy. It may be all very well for a late Viceroy (Lord Lytton) to recite the story of the Pigeon and the Hawk in his 'Glenaveril'; but that does not come within the sphere of every-day life. Of the lower sense of Justice or the right of every animal to live we can trace no indication in the action of Government. If we assume the right on the one hand, we must admit a corresponding duty on the other, and that duty cannot be limited to the breeding season in the way that the Government Notification does it. To some unthinking people the vague idea of humanity and of our repulsion from scenes of pain which make Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals requirements of civilised life might seem the motive cause; but that cannot be appealed to in the present instance. That contemplates city life, whereas we have to deal here with the wilderness, and those who indulge in shikar and reckon their partridges by scores of braces cannot be much affected by the idea being quickened by differences in season. A pregnant grouse shot is not a more affecting sight, than one that is not. The last resort is utility. It is good for man that certain genera of animals should be preserved. Man needs their services, and it is not meet that by promiscuous killing of such animals those services should be made dear. This, however, presumes certain services, and if those services be imaginary the order becomes absurd. This question necessitates our looking into the matter a little more closely.

The Notification includes four orders which may be divided into two parts, one being absolute for all time, and the other periodical. The first refers to elephants which may not be caught or shot at any season, except in self defence, and the second prohibits the killing "between the 1st of April and the 30th of September" the following animals and birds:—deer and antelope, hare, pheasant, partridge, hill and sand grouse, peafowl, florican, junglefowl, also spur fowl, all ducks that breed in the country, grey duck, comb duck, pink-headed duck, large and small whistling teal, cotton teal, and gyal." The first part may be right and proper as far as the tracts connected with the Government Khedda operations are concerned. It is but natural that the Government should like to keep interlopers out of the field. The Khedda operations, however, are confined to some of the eastern districts, and it is not fair that for their sake perfect immunity should be given to elephant life in protected forests in every part of the Bengal provinces. Along the foot of the hills in the Terai wild elephants abound, and they do a great deal of injury to ryots and their crops, and the order accords to them perfect immunity from harm. The only possible conceivable object of this arrangement is to keep the hunting ground in the Terai well stocked for certain Zemindars and their European guests. It may be said that grand sports for big guests are positive gains, however confined they may be to the number of persons benefitted compared to the numbers whose crops are destroyed. Even this much however cannot be predicated of Orissa jungles; there no hunts are organised, and no white man ever goes out elephant shooting; there, therefore, the injuries to the crops and to human life are left unrelieved by a single benefit, as they are in the eastern parts of the Sunderbunds where stray *rogue* elephants are sometimes met with. The saving clause about "self defence" is an insult added to injury. Entire fields of corn worth hundreds of rupees may be destroyed and the proprietors must behold the ruin,—to use a vulgar phrase, to grin and bear it, but do nothing to prevent the destruction, as the case would not be one of "self defence." This, to say the least, is capricious.

The second part begins with a new classification in Zoology; we have there "animals" as distinct from "birds." Unfortunately, however, the order fails in supplying a definition as to what are "birds" and what are "animals," and those who are not familiar with the occult sense of the Bengal Office English may be somewhat puzzled to determine. Taking the animals and birds under the familiar old term of animal, we should like much to know what are the harms which result in the present want of a close season for breeding in regard to deer and antelope? The two groups include a very large number of animals ranging from the size of little goats to the magnificent Sambur and Nilgao. The little ones graze in herds of hundreds, and the large ones are at times fierce and dangerous to man. But both are alike injurious to agriculture, and nowhere subservient to man. There is nothing, therefore, to suggest any anxiety for their preservation during the breeding season. They have besides hitherto thrived well enough without any solicitude on the part of Government, and a multiplication of the smaller Cervidæ and the Antelopedæ, like the hogdeer and the quadricornis, would do grievous harm to our agriculturists. Already those animals are positive nuisances in those parts of the country where they abound, and it would not redound to the credit of Government to multiply them. There is no vernacular name for hares as distinct from rabbits, and the term hare, we presume, has been used in the order in a wide sense, including both hares and rabbits. If so, we could not think of a more injudicious and meddlesome piece of legislation than that of providing for them a close breeding season. It is perhaps too much to expect any depth of knowledge of Zoology in the Bengal Office, but when fixing the time of breeding from the 1st of April to the 30th of September, taking care to emphasize the date by adding "both days inclusive," our rulers would have done well to remember that rabbits multiply three or four times every year. Near Delhi and elsewhere in the North-West coursing hare is a favorite pastime with some people; but in Bengal such a thing is unknown, and hares and rabbits are of no use to man except as articles of luxury for gourmets. On the other hand they do immense injury to our fields, for which there is no relief. Bearing this in mind the Government should rather have fixed rewards for the destruction of rabbits than devised a close breeding season. Doubtless the animals under

notice are perfectly harmless, but their inordinate multiplication is calculated to do harm to man. Goldsmith developed this idea in his humorous story of the country in which squirrels were so much petted that human beings found it hard to live in it and had to abandon it. We have a practical illustration of it in our own day. In Australia rabbits and hares were first introduced in the last century, but they have since, multiplying rapidly, become such positive nuisances that the local legislatures have offered large prizes for contrivances for the wholesale destruction of these pests. One prize is worth £50,000 and for that M. Pasteur has undertaken to devise a scheme for the introduction of rabies among the rabbits there, so as to bring on a wholesale destruction. The Government of Sir Steuart Bayley might not approve of this vauntedly clever, humane and Christian plan of multiplying epizootics by art; but surely it has no reason to promote the multiplication of rabbits so as to make their destruction a necessity with the people. We were not aware that peafowls were wantonly killed by men who create riots when a stray European shoots a peacock in a village; however, should there be such churls their hands are tied up by the Arms Act. They cannot shoot without guns, and they incur heavy penalty if they keep a fowling piece. The limiting of the time of breeding for jungle-fowl and ducks generally which breed in the country will be somewhat inconvenient to the birds concerned, as most species of jungle-fowl now breed from January to March, and the domestic duck does so all the year round; but their domestic arrangements, we are bound to say, should not interfere with the uniformity of a Government order. It would be easy for jungle-fowl either to conform to the order or to forego the protection which a benign Government generously extends to them. We have St. Grouse ruling in England, but there is no such festival in Bengal, and such pheasant as the Government is solicitous about live in the neighbourhood of Darjeeling where there is no protection for them from the lead of the touring British sportsman. We have never seen a pink-headed duck nor a small whistling teal; for aught we know they may be very precious; but their total annihilation will not, we fancy, tell upon the destinies of the earth in any appreciable way. Man has eaten up the Dodo in Mauritius and the Dinothornis in Australia, and yet the earth moves on. The destruction of the comb duck or the pink-headed duck from the want of a close breeding season can, therefore, bring on us no perceptible evil.

Any how it is obvious that utility in the sense of benefitting the largest number has not been the motive of Government. Then what should it be? It would be absurd to suppose that what we have urged were not manifest to Government when the subject was discussed by it. What can then be the cause of this order? Are we to suppose that the Government has been worked upon by charlatans who are ever on the *qui vive* for opportunities for posing themselves as benefactors of the world, or at all events to be known as scientific men. To yield, however, to the solicitations of such men from a vague idea of helping science would amount to a great mistake. Nor would it be unattended with positive harm to the people. Such orders cannot be carried out except through the intervention of police constables and municipal peons, and to invest such peons and constables with the power of inquiry would be to widen the range of peculation and extortion.

INDEPENDENCE OF THE INDIAN LEGISLATURE.

In the debate in the House of Commons on the Indian C. D. Act, Sir John Gorst, the Under Secretary, is reported to have said that it was unconstitutional on the part of that House to interfere with the legislative independence of the Indian Government; and some of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries have here raised the same cry. We think the cry is not just. No doubt, in a very large degree the Government of India is independent, in its legislative functions, of the British Parliament. The Government of India as best acquainted with the wants of the country, must initiate and pass its own laws. But is it after all so independent that Parliament cannot interfere with it in any way and to any extent? Such is not our understanding of the Act of 1858. But if there be any uncertainty in the matter—and law is a rose of wax which can be turned any way you like—it ought soon to be rectified. In our opinion it would be dangerous and prejudicial to the interests of the people of India, to invest the Government of India with absolute independence in the discharge of its legislative functions. No doubt the Government of India generally is composed of good and wise men whose interest it is to govern people according to their inclinations and to promote their welfare. But times may change. We have had once a Warren Hastings, we may possibly have another again; and his Counsellors may be of the like mind with him; and the Secretary of State may follow suit! What would be our safeguard in such circumstances if the Indian Government were absolutely independent? They might introduce slavery or any other pernicious institution into the country. It is not very likely, it is true, that such an untoward event would ever happen; but it is best to guard against any possibilities however remote. We have faith in the Government of India, but we have greater faith in the British House of Commons. The House of Commons is the noblest legislative assembly in the whole world. Consisting of nearly seven hundred British gentlemen, who represent the property, the commerce, the industry, the professions, the common sense, the intelligence and the virtue of the United Kingdom, and who sit night after night in wearisome debates without any pecuniary remuneration, the House of Commons discusses every subject with lucidity and impartiality, It is devoid of petty jealousies except those arising from political partizanship which however neutralize themselves, and takes a wide and comprehensive view of all imperial affairs. This stately and venerable assembly is our best safe-guard. In former days India used to be the dinner bell of the House of Commons. It is not so now. There are in it not only retired Anglo-Indians, but also many British gentlemen who have studied Indian subjects with the keenest interest, who have visited India with a view to be acquainted with its people and its institutions and who are most anxious to do justice to this country. In times gone by the English Press in India used to denounce the double Government and the Indian bureaucracy, and wished for the discussion of all Indian subjects in the House of Commons. Now they are singing a different song. They are jealous of any interference of that House with the course of legislation in India. This is perhaps owing to the circumstances of the hour. Should another Viceroy of different proclivities wield the destinies of this great empire, the English Press in India might change their tone, and call for the interference of Parliament. For our part, whatever may be the proclivities and idiosyncracies of our future Viceroys, we shall always welcome the interposition of the House of Commons, for we are persuaded that that interposition will never be detrimental to our interests. In olden times the Court of Proprietors might have been bullied and the Court of Directors bribed, but now the Governor-General can never hope to exert any influence on the Imperial Parliament, and especially the House of Commons. In that House we will always trust, and to it we must ultimately look for the rectification of our legislation, the redress of our grievances, and the reparation of our wrongs, and we know that we shall not look in vain, for in the House of Commons are concentrated as in a focus the common sense, the wisdom, the generosity and the virtue of the British nation. It has been given out that the Viceregal Council will take up the subject of the limit of its powers, and will express its disapprobation of the interference of the House of Commons. We shall anxiously look out for the proceedings, but sure we are that that House will assert its right to interfere, and if this right be not consistent with the Act of 1858, a new Act must be passed conferring that right. But we disbelieve the rumour above alluded to, for we know that the Viceroy and his Council are men of wisdom and prudence.

THE *TIMES* AND THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

A VERY able and well-informed correspondent of the *Times*, who is universally believed to be Sir William Hunter, has written three letters on the Indian National Congress. In the first letter he accounts for the origin of the Congress, and in the other two he examines its proposals. That the National Congress movement is the direct and natural outcome of the educational policy which the Government has been pursuing in India during the last half a-century, cannot for a moment be doubted. The correspondent writes: "I see in India new forces gathering an ominous momentum, but yet under our control, forces which are surely destined either to strengthen or to imperil our empire. These forces take their origin from a motive power which we ourselves have set agoing, and for the time they still find one common outlet—the great desire now stirring the hearts of the Princes and people of India to be more closely incorporated into British rule. We have bred up a new generation of feudatory chiefs in the principles and practice of public duty, a generation which feel their position to be anachronism, incompatible with their training. They now beg to be allowed to prove themselves worthy of the tuition they have received, and press upon the Viceroy offers of their armies and revenues for a truly Imperial system of frontier defence. We have at the same time reared a great educated class within our own territories, nurturing them in the doctrines of English liberty, grounding them in the work of administration, disciplining them by the practical teaching of local self-Government, admitting them to some of the highest offices in the State, and publicly consulting them in every large legislative measure. This powerful class, thus exercised and inured in the duties of British citizenship now ask, like the feudatory chiefs, but in their own different province, to be more fully associated in the work of British rule. There rises, therefore, from the people and Princes of India a new and united cry to be allowed to enter on the responsibilities for which we have deliberately trained them—the responsibilities of the external defence and the internal Government of their country." This being the case, all sensible and right-minded persons will agree with the *Times'* correspondent that an annual gathering like the National Congress, claiming a representative character and passing resolutions on questions of the highest political import, is of very great portent in India; and the time is at hand when England must make up her mind on certain great questions of Indian policy.

In examining the proposals of the Congress, the *Times'* correspondent points out that of the 11 resolutions passed by the Madras Congress, four dealt with its own electoral organization and internal management; four related to the expansion or modification of existing institutions of the Civil Government; three gave expression to the desire, now felt alike by the princes and people, to take a more active share in the military defence of India. As the resolutions of the Congress dealing with the Civil Government are the most important, we will in this article notice the views which the *Times'* correspondent has expressed upon them. Of the four resolutions bearing upon this question the most important is that which deals with the expansion of the Legislative Councils. The correspondent explains that the changes in regard to these bodies advocated by the Congress are of two kinds—functional and structural. As respects functional changes it is asked that the yearly budget may be laid before the Legislative Council for discussion and that the right of interpellation be given to its members. In the first request the Congress, as we all know, is supported by the Chamber of Commerce and the whole non-official European community in India. As regards the second functional change proposed by the Congress, the *Times'* correspondent reminds us that the right of interpellation was conceded by Lord Dalhousie to the earlier Legislative Council in 1854 and that this right having been abused by certain English members of the Council, it was withdrawn. "The Congress asks," writes the correspondent, "that the

right of interpellation be declared afresh, in regard to all questions of internal civil administration. It would exempt from interpellation all questions bearing upon the army and there are obviously other groups of subjects connected with the foreign policy of the Government, and its dealing with the local Government or by Her Majesty's Ministers, which would also be excluded. The clear right of the executive to withhold an answer would have to be reserved." As the right of interpellation is enjoyed by the members of the Ceylon Legislative Council, there is no reason whatever why this right should not be conceded in India.

The structural changes in the Legislative Councils demanded by the Congress are also two in number. It asks that the proportion of non-official members be raised from a third to a half, and that the elective principle be introduced. Those proposals cannot, of course, be adopted without the sanction of Parliament. It should be remembered that the numerical change advocated by the Congress would still leave a working majority with the Government. The *Times'* correspondent apprehends that the extension of the elective principle to the Legislative Councils would be attended with serious difficulties, as it is no easy matter to construct an electoral body which would truly represent the diverse races and conflicting communities of India. It cannot for a moment be doubted that a complete representation of the people in the Legislative Councils would be an immense gain to the country. But the problem is, whether it is possible under existing conditions to have an organization which would return to the Councils members who could fully represent all sections of the community. This problem has not yet been solved.

The proposal for the separation of the Judicial from the Executive branch of the administration, is strongly supported by the *Times'* correspondent, who remarks:—"It may seem strange that such a request has still to be preferred by subjects of Great Britain. It was one of the foundations of English liberty that the executive should not be both prosecutor and Judge in its own cause. * * * The Indian Government has long felt the anomaly of holding the same official accountable for catching the thief and for convicting him, for protecting its fiscal and territorial rights, whose infringements come within the cognizance of the Magisterial Courts, and for the due punishment of the accused." It is high time that this anomaly should be removed. It is not surely a question of finance as the *Times'* correspondent would have us believe. The separation of Judicial from Executive functions will not involve much extra cost. But the truth is, that if the District officer were deprived of his judicial powers, he would lose a great deal of his influence over the people; and that is the chief reason why the proposed change does not find favour with the bureaucracy, which is so jealous of its rights and privileges that it would not part with one iota of them.

Coming to the subject of technical education, the *Times'* correspondent explains that all that the Congress pleads for is that Indian labour should have the same educational advantages as the rival labour of other countries. The Congress, in fact, takes its stand on the recommendations of the Education Commission and asks for an efficient system of technical instruction for India. The *Times'* correspondent tells us that Lord Dufferin has in this matter shown himself in sympathy with the wants of the people. But the efforts made by his lordship to promote the cause of technical education have been quite inadequate. They have utterly failed to meet the necessities of the case. In dealing with the resolution of the Congress which demands that the minimum taxable income under the Income Tax Act should be raised to Rs. 1,000, the *Times'* correspondent observes: "The members desired relief only for their poorer countrymen. They expressed their willingness to make good the loss of revenue by a re-imposition of the customs duties, carefully exempting the coarser qualities of piece-goods, in which the Indian mills now compete keenly with the English manufacturer, so that Manchester might not accuse them of protectionist leanings. In this proposal they have the concurrence of a large section of the European community in India. It is certain that had the present military exigencies been foreseen the customs duties would not have been abolished." We cannot but entertain a very poor opinion of the statesmanship which did not foresee the present military exigencies when the cotton duties were remitted. The approach of Russia on the borders of Afghanistan had for some years previous been regarded by all people who had a head over their shoulders as merely a question of time.

THE FUTURE OF THE BENGALI.

OUR Hare Street contemporary, taking his cue from a London journal which notices the proceedings of the third National Congress held at Madras about the close of last year, indulges in speculations on the probable future of the different nationalities of India, in the event of the conquest of the country by the Russians. The writer thinks that the Bengali is clever, but inferior in physical capacities to the other nations of India; hence the inference is drawn that in any case of political convulsion the fate of the Bengali would be deplorable. Now, we protest against any talk about Russian occupation of India in connection with the proceedings of the National Congress. The members of the Congress and those who sympathize with them are a thoroughly loyal body; they are adopting constitutional methods to obtain certain improvements in the country which they think it highly desirable to have; and they do not dream either of becoming independent or of having a change of masters. They are quite content to be under the sway of the Queen-Empress, and their only desire is, reposing in the shade of British protection, to improve their physical, political and intellectual condition. The Bengali especially is thankful for the many blessings of British rule, and he has no wish for a change of masters. He is thankful that his destinies are not linked with those of any barbarous or semi-barbarous nation, but that his lot is cast with one of the most civilized and advanced nations of the world. He is too well read in European history to have any hankering after Russian domination, well-knowing that the Russian nation is the youngest in Europe and has not yet quite emerged from barbarism. He would look upon the Russian occupation of the country as the greatest calamity which could befall it, since it would throw India at least one century backward. The educated Bengali hates autocratic of all Governments in the world, he hates it with a perfect hatred. If the Bengali must be under subjection, he prefers the yoke of England to that of any other power.

We are amongst those who hold the opinion that Russia will never succeed in conquering India if England intelligently studies her own interest. Even at present the chances of a successful Russian invasion of India are *nil*. There is the warlike and astute Afghan interposing between the Russians and us. The Afghan must first be either subdued or subsidized before the Muscovite can put his foot in India. But he cannot be subdued for two reasons; first, because he is warlike and will fight to the bitter end for his hearth and home; and secondly, because the might of England will be at his back to support and sustain him. Neither can the Afghan be subsidized by the Muscovite, for the Afghan knows the wily nature of the Muscovite, swallowing down kingdom after kingdom under professions of alliance. The snake will sooner make friends with the ichneumon than the Afghan make alliance with the Muscovite. Neither will the Indian Princes take the side of Russia. They have heard of the crushing despotism of Russia on the one hand, and have experienced the mild sway of England on the other; and they will not join the former against the latter. They will not deliberately leap from the frying-pan, if it is indeed a frying-pan with some of them, into the fire. Nor will the vast mass of the people join the Russians as they are generally averse to change, and as they eat their daily bread in peace and security under British rule; only the scum of the people may join the invader with a view to plunder and rapine. On these grounds therefore do we maintain that even at present a successful Russian invasion of India is out of the question.

We have said above that Russia can never succeed in conquering India if England intelligently studies her own interest. We have said this advisedly. After all, the best method which England can adopt to keep the Muscovite from India is to make the Indian Princes and Chieftains and the population generally contented, cheerful and happy. You may increase your European army as much as you like—and England has not such vast armies as some of the nations on the continent of Europe—you may strengthen the frontier defences; but what can these avail when there are enemies within? A contented and happy population is the best, surest, strongest and withal cheapest defence of a country. It should be the interest of Government to see that no Native Princes have any grievances to complain of, that the just aspirations of the people are freely responded to, that they are not overtaxed and that they are contented and happy. With such contented Princes and people, the Indian Government may well defy the might of the Czar of all the Russians.

But make the impossible supposition that the Afghan is either crushed or subsidized, that the Indian Princes take the side of Russia, that our armies are hopelessly defeated at Khyber or Quetta, and the Czar takes his invincible legions on the plains of Hindustan—make all these impossible suppositions, what then? Would the case of the Bengali be any whit worse than that of the Sikh, the Hindustani, the Rajput, the Mahammedan and the Mahratta? Would these nationalities be better able to cope with the countless hordes of the Muscovite autocrat than the Bengali? Would not they all be involved in one common ruin? The superior physical capacities of the other nationalities would not stand better stead than the inferior physical capacities of the Bengali. Such would be the case on the supposition that the Russians had not consolidated the conquest and settled the country. But when the country is settled down, the Bengali by his superior intelligence will again have his own way.

There are people who despise the feeble physique and want of courage of the rice-feeding and fish-eating Bengali; but we have no doubt that the Bengali has a bright future before him. In forecasting the future of the Bengali we must take into consideration three factors favourable to us, namely, population, wealth, and intellect. We are a nation fifty millions strong; we mean those who speak the Bengali language, excluding the people of Behar and of Orissa. Such a vast population, larger than that of Germany, of France and of the United Kingdom, if educated and properly trained, would make a compact and powerful nation. It is true that, living in an enervating climate and lorded over by foreigners for centuries, the Bengali has become weak and spiritless. But it is the teaching of history that a weak nation may by proper training and the force of favourable circumstances become a great nation. The soft and indolent Italian, who used to spend his days and nights in love-making and serenading, has cast off his sloth and become vigorous. A Cavour and a Garribaldi arose and breathed life into the dead Italians; and to-day Italy is one of the great powers of Europe. What has happened in southern Europe may at some future time happen in southern Asia. Time and training and circumstances may work a marvellous change. Education gives spirit, spirit imparts courage, and courage is the mother of the martial virtues. Nor is an inferior physique an insuperable obstacle to national greatness. The physique of the Frenchman is certainly inferior to that of the German and the Russian, and yet the legions of Napoleon the First beat down the stalwart sons of the Fatherland and of Holy Russia. Besides, in modern warfare superior physique is not of much avail. The science of destruction has in our time made a great and terrible progress; and a nation of inferior physique, if large in number, gifted with intelligence and furnished with instruments of precision, may beat a nation of superior physique, unblessed with those advantages. Only a short time ago, the Chinese, who are naturally weak and faint-hearted, and who in their war with England fled from the field like a pack of geese,

coped successfully with the French, sometimes inflicting on them a severe defeat, and at some future day China, with her four hundred millions, may become the most powerful empire in the world. Numbers are not to be despised in calculating the destinies of a nation.

Another factor to be taken into consideration in forecasting the future of a nation is its wealth. Bengal is a rich country, because it is exceedingly fertile. A mere scratch of the soil will produce an abundant harvest. We have our coal-mines, our tea-gardens, our poppy fields, our indigo-vats, our sugar-cane plantations and our cotton fields. As it is, Bengal is the milch-cow of India; and if all the resources of the country were fully developed by Native enterprize, she would become one of the richest countries in the world. With such abundant resources and a numerous population, God-willing Bengal may, in the course of time and under favourable circumstances, become a powerful kingdom, and the Bengalis a great nation.

There is moreover the third and most important factor, namely, that of intelligence. Our worst enemies admit that we are a highly intelligent race. A Native of Upper India, now living in London, while writing to the *Times* in condemnation of the National Congress, accused the Bengalis of "verbosity." We plead guilty to the soft impeachment. We talk a great deal, simply because we have many ideas in our heads. We are not dumb logs. Other nationalities boast of their stalwart physique and of their bodily strength. Though weak in body, we are strong in mind. Intellect, not brute force, governs the world, and if the Bengali has that, he has at least one essential factor of national greatness. The Bengalis are the Athenians of India. Living in a country lavishly blessed by Nature with her bounty, strong in number, and gifted with keen intelligence, the Bengalis may hopefully look forward to that day when they will become a wealthy, powerful and great nation. In the meantime they educate and train themselves under the fostering care of England, for whose benign rule they cannot be too thankful, inasmuch as they are allowed peacefully to eat the fruit of the labour of their hands, to cultivate their minds, to enjoy comparative freedom in all the spheres of life, to train themselves in the art of Self-Government, and thus make progress in the path of national regeneration. Under these circumstances, the patriotic Bengali, like the lofty-minded Roman Senator of old, should never despair of his country.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTE

THE work of reviewing the opinions of the Local Governments on the Public Service Commission's Report, preparatory to the Government of India's despatch being submitted to the Secretary of State, is now proceeding, it is said, at Simla.

THOUGH Sir Charles Bernard resigned the Civil Service some weeks ago, no formal intimation of the fact has as yet reached the authorities in this country. Sir Charles' premature resignation is a loss to the Service.

THE Fourth Criminal Sessions of the High Court will commence on Monday, the 2nd of July next, and, will be presided over again by Mr. Justice Wilson.

A STUPID and persistent rumour was circulated in town on Thursday that Mr. Thomas Jones, the well-known Judge, of the local Small Cause Court, had died of heat appoplexy. We are glad to be informed that there is no truth in the rumour and the gentleman in question is in the very best health.

THE Government of India, the *Pioneer* hears, intend submitting proposals to the Secretary of State which will revolutionise the financial relations between the Imperial and Provincial Governments. The idea is to carry decentralisation further by separating as far as possible the Provincial expenditure from the Imperial, and to empower Provincial Governments to raise by local taxation such funds as they may require for their special needs. Under this system each Province would in such a matter say as education have to trust entirely to its own resources. It remains to be seen if the proposed change will be acceptable to the India Office.

THERE was a great *fraccas* between the Bengali and Hindusthani *employes* of the Eastern Bengal State Railway at the Kancharapara workshop last week. The two parties faught on for nearly 4 hours, and the local Police was at first unable to put down the fighting.

WE much regret to learn the death of Pundit Srish Chundra Vidyaratna, late Deputy Magistrate. He was one of the pioneers of the widow-marriage reform in Bengal and rendered material aid to Pundit Issur Chandra Vidyasagar. He was much liked by all who knew him and his death is deplored by a large circle of friends and relatives. He was 64 years of age when he died.

THE cause of the recent insufficient water-supply in Calcutta was that one of the Pumps at the Tallah Pumping Station was found to be out of order a few days ago, and to be working defectively. The engine had to be put off work on Monday for repairs, and hence the water-supply of the town was reduced by nearly one-half. The two new engines at Tallah are now in process of erection, and till they are completed, the water-supply of the town depends on the two existing engines which are capable of pumping 15 million gallons a day. An accident of this sort at the present critical season is a very serious misfortune, and we are glad to learn that the engine resumed work on Wednesday last.

JUDGMENT has been given at Dundalk in the appeal case of Mr. Dillon, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment without labour. The Judges have upheld the sentence passed by the Magistrates at Mell, near Drogheda. Owing to Mr. Dillon's trial and conviction, Mr. Gladstone will to-day move a vote of censure against the whole working of the Coercion Act in Ireland.

THE Government of India has commenced settling the claims against the late Burmese Government. Messrs. Charriol and Charmettant, of Lyons, who claimed Rs. 42,000 for silks and velvets supplied to King Theebaw, have been awarded Rs. 29,000. These goods were found in the palace when Mandalay was captured, and sold for the benefit of the Prize Committee. The State makes payment, it is said, of the original net cost as a matter of grace, and not of legal right.

THE following circular has been issued by the Board of Revenue:—As the Board have reason to believe that an impression exists that no reward is to be paid in opium cases, unless the fine inflicted by the Magistrate is realised, the attention of all officers is hereby drawn to rules 43,44 and 45 of the Government Revised Opium Rules, and Rules 18, 19, 20, 23 and 24 of the Board's subsidiary rules on the subject of the payment of rewards in opium cases.

THE following gentlemen have been appointed to conduct the next M. A. examination in the subjects mentioned:—*English* Mr. F. J. Rowe M. A. and S. C. Hill, B. A., B. S- C. *Sanskrit*—Pundit Maheschandra Nyaratna, and Baboo Krishna Kamal Bhattacharjya. *History*—Mr. W. T. Webb, M. A.,and Dr. A. F. Hœrnle. *Philosophy*—Dr. P. K. Ray and Mr. H. Stephen, M. A. *Mathematics*—Mr. W. Booth, M. A., and Baboo Asutosh Mookerjee, M. A., *Physical Science*—Mr. J. Eliot. M. A., Mr. W. Booth, M. A. and Mr. A. Pedler, F. C. S.

WE are glad to hear that our well-known Marwari townsman Rai Soorjoo Mull Jhoon-Jhoonwallah, Bahadoor, has handed over to the Port Commissioners Rs. 10,000, for the construction of a bathing ghaut at the riverside between Prosonno Coomar Tagore's Ghaut and Juggernauth Ghaut, for the use of the Hindoos, to perform their *shradh* ceremony.

THE accused policemen in the late Torture Case which has been committed to the Sessions, have been suspended by the Deputy Commissioner of Police. Mr. Lambert has made a concession to public opinion in taking the step. Vigorous punishment of some of these scandalous cases would much check the evil.

MR. T. C. PLOWDEN, Resident in Kashmir, has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. Leslie Saunders as Commissioner in Behar. Mr. Plowden's successor in Kashmir has not yet been decided upon. But probably Colonel Young goes there from the Punjab on probation. The appointment is expected to be popular and Mr. Plowden's removal from Kashmir is very welcome and will be hailed with joy. He will, however, yet remain in Kashmir for some time.

THE Supreme Government is evidently in difficulties regarding the Calcutta Municipal Bill, on account of the legal questions lately raised in these columns in this connection. This would at least be the inference, when we read between the lines what the *Englishman*, as official spokesman, has to say on the subject:—As the Calcutta Municipal Bill will require to be considered by the Viceroy both as an administrative measure and in its legal bearings, nearly a fortnight is likely to elapse before his Excellency's intentions regarding it can be made known.

HARMONIUM is one of the few musical instruments which an amateur can acquire some proficiency in without regular professional training. It is getting popular in our community; but the great draw-back was that there was no proper hand-book for imparting the requisite elementary instructions. Messers Harold and Co., have supplied this want, by bringing out a handy "Tutor" in Bengali for the Harmonium and Harmoni-flute. The author, Babu Hiralal Ghose, is a respectable young gentleman who plays on the instrument admirably and is well fitted for the work he has undertaken. The price of the book is only a rupee.

THE currency question affects affairs of life in most curious ways. We are informed by the telegraph authorities that the rates of foreign telegrams from India will be increased on account of the fall in exchange, from the 1st of July. The rate to the United Kingdom and Europe will be increased by three annas per word, and rates to other places will be raised proportionately.

THE V. P. system in India is working well in spite of the complaints of fraud and occasional inconvenience caused in regard to it. In 1886-87, 29½ lakhs was paid to Calcutta tradesmen alone for articles sent to purchasers in the muffasal under the V. P. system; and the figures for last year show a large increase.

THE charges brought against Mr. Larpent at the recent enquiry into his conduct were as follows:—(1) That he agreed to receive from Ram Saran Das Rs. 2,500 with the view of showing him favour in the law examination at Lahore in December, 1886, and that he did actually receive Rs. 1,510 as a bribe for that purpose; (2) that he permitted Gunde Sing to introduce certain candidates to him, knowing that Gunde Sing was endeavouring to induce them to believe that their success at the examination depended on their coming to terms with him (Mr. Larpent), and that he knew that thereby he would aid Gunde Sing in obtaining an illegal gratification; (3) that he communicated to some other person, or, knowingly, or by gross and culpable negligence, permitted some other person to ascertain examination questions at the above examination. The Commissioners held that the first two charges were fully proved against Mr. Larpent and that having regard to the wording of the third charge they were unable to acquit him upon it After the most careful consideration of the proceedings of the Commissioners, the

Governor-General in Council states that he is fully satisfied of the truth of the first two charges. But His Excellency is of opinion that, though there was laxity on the part of Mr. Larpent in supervising the examination for the degree of Licentiate of Law, held at Lahore in December, the third charge is not established against him. Having regard to the serious nature of the first two charges the Governor-General in Council has come to the conclusion that no lighter punishment can be inflicted on Mr. Larpent than dismissal from her Majesty's service. and he accordingly directs that he be so dismissed. The dismissal is accompanied with an expression of regret that is hardly deserved. If an example was ever to be made for gross misdemeanour this was the case for it.

THE *Civil and Military Gazette* is much chagrined that the Native Press is not severely punished for sedition where no sedition exists. Our contemporary's frank suggestion therefore is to indirectly punish it by punishing the community it represents. Its plan is simple:—But the people are so entirely dependent upon our Government for their daily food, and withal have so little of the spirit which prompts to martyrdom when opinions are at stake, that severity would really be out of place. All that is necessary is a stern and vigilant system of boycotting. It would be found amply efficacious." The Government that failed or neglected to give effect to so just, sound and statesman-like a policy would be unworthy of its name. The heat is sufficiently trying down here and must be considerably so up at Lahore. We trust nothing is wrong that way. The great difficulty of those with whom the native press is an eyesore for its fearless exposure of jobbery and oppression is that the Government as such is always spared and to it the Press and the people they represent are devotedly loyal. It is individual follies that are ruthlessly brought to light and gibbeted and the victims smarting under the lash put up the Anglo-Indian Press to all manner of absurdities.

THE heat in Calcutta during the last week has been excessive. Father Lafont, of the St. Xavier's College, says he has not recorded any worse nor even so bad these last 23 years. Owing to the continuance of the heat, the Chief Presidency Magistrate has arranged that summons cases will be adjourned on the application of the parties concerned, and the Honorary Magistrates will take up their work at 10 A. M. As regards the serious cases and petty offences they will be taken up in the ordinary way, as the prisoners cannot be kept in the lock-up. The Appellate benches of the High-Court on the application of the pleaders closed on Wednesday last. The Original side however was not equally fortunate and remained open on Thursday, as if it was less impervious to the inclemencies of the weather than the Appellate side. The sufferings of the suitors and their witnesses who would have to dance attendance all through the livelong day could be well imagined, and the fees of the gentlemen of the long robe and the attorneys, it was thought, would make little amends for the tortures that would have to be undergone. On the motion of some leading European barristers however the Original side was closed for ten days on Thursday. The Alipore Courts and some Government offices also closed for a day or two and others arranged for morning work. Meanwhile the Municipality would not give any water, and the Ice sellers of Calcutta, having a keen eye to business, raised the price of ice. The heat remained unabated till Saturday night when there were some heavy showers. But they ill succeeded in bringing the heat down, and people have still to pass sleepless nights. It is remarkable that the Municipality should have specially selected this veritably grilling season for cutting off its proverbially slender supply of water. On Monday evening no water could be had at the taps or the street hydrants and matters did not materially improve on the following days. Relief however came on Thursday morning when the supply was better. Thousands of people nightly frequent the river bank and try to snatch a little sleep in the cool of the river breeze, but the days and nights in the town are simply intolerable and cases of heat appoplexy are very common both among natives and Europeans Olden weather predictions were for once falsified by utter absence of rain on the *Dusahara* day and the first two days of *Ambubachi*. There was a dust storm followed by an attempt at raining on Monday, which made matters considerably worse.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNQUILLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMTION.—Allen G. Chattaway Esq, District Medical officer Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of consumption:—"Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of any other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of confirmed Consumption were placed under my care. In both, the lungs were a mass of tubercular deposit and every possible sound to be heard in Phthisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat; the diseased (abnormal) sounds nearly inaudible; and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing, and shooting are freely indulged in, the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees Ansar Harford & Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

WE have to acknowledge with thanks the following books and pamphlets:

1. Report of the Lunatic Asylums at Lahore and Delhi, for 1887.
2. Total quantities of the principal articles carried by rail and river in British India, from 1st October to 31st December 1887.
3. Tattabodhini Patrika, for Jaistha B. S. 1295.
4. Bharati, for Jaistha, B. S. 1295.
5. Udbhranta premik, by Haran Chunder Rakhit.
6. Cyclone Memoirs, Pt. I., or Bay of Bengal Cyclone of May 20th—28th 1887.
7. The Voice of India for May 1887.
8. The Theosophist for May 1887.

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*June* 20, 1888.

GENERAL.—Babu Mohim Chunder Ghose, Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B. C.) of 1880 in the District of Rajshahye.

Babu Atul Chunder Chaterji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kishoregunge, Mymensing, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 17th ultimo.

Babu Tulsi Churn Pal, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is transferred to Mymensing, and is appointed to have charge of the Kishoregunge Sub-Division of that District.

Babu Burmeshur Prosad, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Bishenpore, Bankurah, is transferred to Chota Nagpore Division for the purpose of taking over land in the Gangpore State required for the Bengal Nagpore Railway.

Babu Satya Taran Mukerji, Sub-Deputy Collector, Giridhi, Hazaribagh, is appointed to be a special Deputy Collector for employment on road cess revaluation work in the Burdwan District.

Babu Pran Kissen Das, Sub-Deputy Collector, Satkhira, Khulna, is transferred to Giridhi, in the District of Hazaribagh.

Moulvi Mir Mahomed Ibrahim is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, vice, Babu Satya Taran Mukerji, and is posted to Satkhira, in the District of Khunla.

Babu Purna Chunder Roy, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, is allowed furlough for one year, under section 132 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st May 1888.

Mr A Forbes, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24 Pergunnahs, is allowed forlough for nine months under section 50 of the Civil Leave Code with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr C W Bolton is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of the 24 Pergunnahs, during absence, on forlough, of Mr W H Grimlay, or until further orders, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Durbhunga.

Babu Probhat Nath Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakhally, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Moulvi Buzlul Karim, Deputy Magisitrate and Deputy Collector, Brahmunbariah, Tipperah, is allowed leave for two days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave grated to him under the order of the 8th ultimo.

Mr H J McIntosh, Assistant Megistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that District.

Mr H Mosley, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of the first grade, is confirmed in that grade with effect from the 6th March last.

Mr H G Cooke, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of the second grade, is confirmed in that grade with effect from the the 7th March last.

Mr A C Tute, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack is appointed to be a Magistrate of third grade, with effect from the 7th March last.

Mr Tute will continue to act in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors until further orders.

Mr A E Staley, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, second grade, on leave, is promoted to the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors with effect from the 7th March last.

Mr W C Macpherson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is appointed to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the second grade, with effect from the 9th May last.

Mr Macpherson will continue to act in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors until further orders.

Mr H W C Carnduff, Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Revenue, General and Statistical Departments, is confirmed in that appointment, with effect from the 9th May last.

Mr H H Risley is appointed substantive protempore to be a Deputy Commissioner of the second grade, with effect from the 31st May last, vice Mr A W Paul, on special duty.

Mr Risley is also appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of Darjiling, during the absence, on special duty, of Mr A W Paul, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Mr R Carstairs, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed substantive protempore to be a Deputy Commissioner of the third grade, with effect from the 31st May last, vice Mr H H Risley.

Mr L R Forbes, Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is appointed to act in the second grade of Deputy Commissioners with effect from the 31st May last, vice Mr H H Risley.

Babu Hury Mohun Chandra, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Rajshanye Division, is allowed leave for nine months, under section 128 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave grated to him under the order of the 22nd October last.

Mr H Luson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is allowed leave for one month and two days, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 16th July 1888.

Babu Radhika Lal Shome, Sub-Deputy Collector, Bishenpore, Bankura, is allowed leave for one month under section 128 of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 20th April last.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.—Babu Mohim chunder Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is vested with powers, under sectfons 133, 186 and 524 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of that Code.

Babu Tulsi Churn Paul, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kishoregunge, Mymensingh, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Bench at Motihari, in the District of Chumparun, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class—

Babu Haruch Chand, Babu Gambhir Sahu, Babu Bhawat Sahu Moulvi Mahomed Nurul Hossein, Babu Gopal Sahu and Babu Ram Sahai Mal.

Babu Bogola Prosunno Mozumdar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chandpore, Tipperah, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal-Procedure.

Mr C A White Assistant Engineer, Daudnugger, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class for the trial of offences under Act 111 (B. C.) of 1876.

Bobu Janoki Nath Mozumdar is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate for the Debigunge Bench, in the District of Julpigori, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

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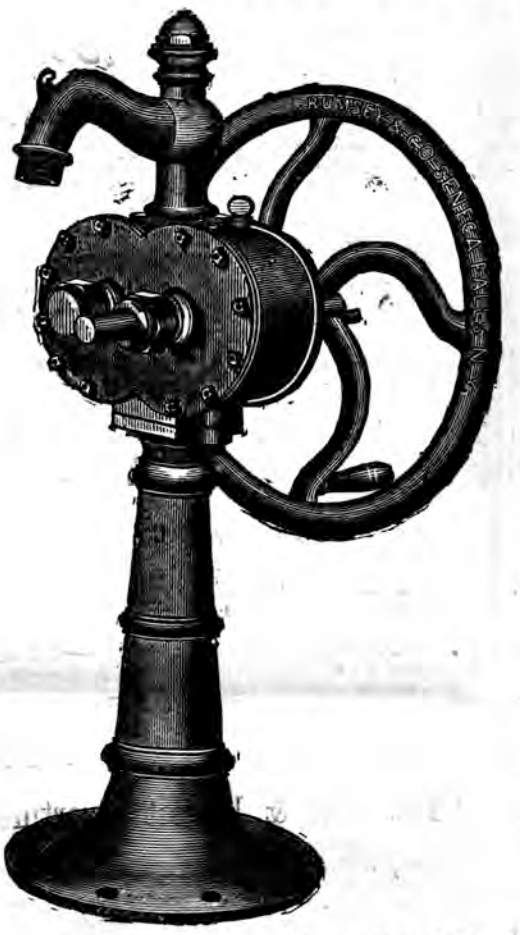

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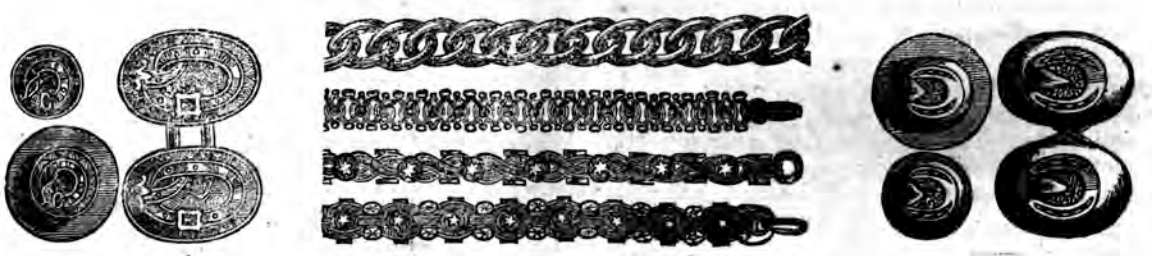

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